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Acute Healthcare Solutions' DoseWatch To Use Multum's MediSource

PR Newswire; New York; Feb 26, 1998;

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Dateline: Colorado

Companies: [Multum Information Services, Inc.](#)

[Acute Healthcare Systems, Inc.](#)

Abstract:

DENVER and MEREDITH, N.H., Feb. 26 /PRNewswire/ -- Multum Information Services, Inc. and Acute Healthcare Solutions, Inc. today at the HIMSS '98 Conference announced the signing of a license agreement to embed Multum's intelligent software components within the Acute Healthcare Solutions DoseWatch(TM) system.

DoseWatch captures actual drug administration data from **infusion pumps** using [Hewlett-Packard's Device Link\(TM\)](#), drug name and concentration from a bar code reader, and runs the combinations through the Multum **database** of drug interactions and dosing algorithms. DoseWatch sends an indication to a nursing screen whenever an actual drug treatment violates the rules in the Multum **database**. DoseWatch is a backup application to ensure that good clinical practice is being followed, catching potential errors before they have large negative effects on patient status. DoseWatch is a major step forward in eliminating the high costs of preventable adverse drug events in acute care settings.

DoseWatch is a Windows NT based application, acting as a client for bedside data capture devices. DoseWatch builds a drug treatment profile for each patient based on what each **infusion pump** is delivering. DoseWatch sends this profile of drugs and doses to the Multum **database** to ensure that a valid drug treatment is being administered. For DoseWatch to operate, a nurse needs only to plug in a communications cable and run a bar code scanner over the pump and drug bag. The bar code scanner must be run over the pump, followed by the bag, followed by the pump again to ensure unambiguous association of a drug and concentration with a **pump** rate and **infusion** amount. The total nursing action takes less than 10 seconds. DoseWatch will send a nursing warning for any active pump that does not have an associated drug.

Full Text:

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Industry: COMPUTER/ELECTRONICS; HEALTH CARE/HOSPITALS; INTERNET MULTIMEDIA ONLINE

DoseWatch Captures Infusion Drug Administration Data

to Reduce Adverse Drug Events

DENVER and MEREDITH, N.H., Feb. 26 /PRNewswire/ -- Multum Information Services, Inc. and Acute Healthcare Solutions, Inc. today at the HIMSS '98 Conference announced the signing of a license agreement to embed Multum's intelligent software components within the Acute Healthcare Solutions DoseWatch(TM) system.

DoseWatch captures actual drug administration data from **infusion pumps** using Hewlett-Packard's Device Link(TM), drug name and concentration from a bar code reader, and runs the combinations through the Multum **database** of drug interactions and dosing algorithms. DoseWatch sends an indication to a nursing screen whenever an actual drug treatment violates the rules in the Multum **database**. DoseWatch is a backup application to ensure that good clinical practice is being followed, catching potential errors before they have large negative effects on patient status. DoseWatch is a major step forward in eliminating the high costs of preventable adverse drug events in acute care settings.

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"In a newly competitive market, hospitals are fighting to reduce costs and improve quality, goals that are frequently at odds," said Bob Kennelly, President of Acute Healthcare Solutions, Inc. (AHS). "Prevention of adverse drug events is an area where both goals can be met: costs can be reduced and care can be improved. The dangers of adverse drug events has led to the development of many drug interaction data bases, used by hospital and retail pharmacies. These **databases** are presently only used to catch problem orders since they have no way to get data on the actual drugs being given to the patient. In acute care settings in the hospital, most of the drugs are administered in very strict therapeutic ranges through **infusion pumps**. Simple to use data communications for the pump allows capture of drug administration data, which can now be sent to the same drug interaction **databases**. Multum's extensive **databases** of drug interactions and dosing algorithms are an ideal partner in this system."

Multum's **databases** are accessed via its MediSource(TM) SDK (software development kit) and successfully address the widespread and costly problems associated with adverse drug events, or ADEs. An ADE can be caused by an inappropriate drug, an incorrect dosage, or contraindicated medicines. ADEs result in up to 200,000 fatalities a year, are responsible for up to 28% of all hospitalizations, and cost \$76.6 billion annually in prescription-related drug problems. The success of MediSource reflects the fact that 70% to 80% of ADEs are related to a drug's pharmacological characteristics and are usually dose dependent, predictable, and preventable.

"The DoseWatch system is a fascinating application of our technology," said Michael McCarty, acting-COO of Multum. "This new product helps hospitals automatically capture actual drug administration data, in real time, leading to improved care and cost savings."

Multum Information Services, Inc. develops intelligent software components that improve the quality and cost effectiveness of healthcare. Through its extensive global research efforts, Multum is able to provide the most comprehensive drug information available world-wide. Multum's flagship product, MediSource SDK, a patient-specific drug information service, is the first to deliver detailed clinical information of this type. Delivered as a software development kit, MediSource SDK is based on the latest technologies and architecture. MediSource SDK leads the field in providing intelligent software components that can be easily integrated into other healthcare information systems. Multum, based in Denver, Colorado, was founded in 1992, is privately held and primarily funded by several Fortune 500 companies.

Acute Healthcare Systems, Inc. develops real-time data collection systems integrating bedside medical device data using the IEEE 1073 Standard for Medical Device Communications. AHS is the first vendor to develop acute care focused application solutions for clinician challenges based on industry standard data communications. AHS's software and application solutions provide simultaneous, comprehensive, automatic data acquisition and analysis from multiple medical devices including **infusion pumps**, patient monitors, and ventilators. AHS's products provide data in a usable format for real time review by clinicians who now operate in a simultaneous overload of data and vacuum of information. The Company's DoseWatch product is optimized to use Hewlett-Packard's Device Link as its communications infrastructure and is directly compatible with the data content and formats of the draft IEEE and European Standards for data representation. AHS, with offices in Meredith, New Hampshire and San Diego,

California, was founded in 1997 and is privately held.

Note: This release is also available on the Internet at <http://www.multum.com> and <http://www.acutehealth.com>
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